

# MINES AND MINING

## WYOMING OIL FIELDS REPORT

Geological Survey Officials Issue Bulletins on Results of Recent Investigations.

The occurrence of oil in southwestern Wyoming has been known for nearly three-fourths of a century. Many of the early trappers and fur traders, who built Fort Bonneville and the trading post at Fort Bridger, knew the location of oil springs in this region and visited them in their annual trapping tours. The first published account of oil in southwestern Wyoming was the result of an examination made by the Mormons in 1847, on their pioneer journey across the plains. W. Clayton, who accompanied this expedition, published in 1848 a little book which was known for years as the "Mormons' Guide Book," containing the following account:

"About a mile from this place (the crossing of the road over Sulphur creek) in a southwest course is a 'tar' or 'oil' spring, covering a surface of several rods of ground. A wagon trail runs within a short distance of it. . . . When the oil can be obtained free from sand it is useful to oil wagons. It gives a nice polish to gunstocks, and has been proved to be highly beneficial when applied to sores on horses, cattle, etc."

It is reported that Brigham Young caused a shallow well to be dug at this point, and the locality is now known as the Brigham Young oil well or spring. The oil was skimmed off the surface of the water in this well, sold to emigrants and carried in small quantities to Salt Lake City.

A full discussion of the oil discovery in the vicinity of Spring valley and of the developments in southern Uinta county from 1900 to 1905 appears in the report of A. C. Veatch of the United States geological survey, soon to be issued as professional paper No. 16 of the survey. Since 1905 prospecting and development work have continued in this region and the outlook is very promising for work the coming summer.

North of Kemmerer no prospecting for oil was carried on during the oil excitement in southern Uinta county, although oil discoveries had been reported at various times from several localities along the east front of Bearhawk ridge and from Green River basin east of Meridian ridge and Thompson plateau.

The discovery of oil east of Labarge ridge, in central Uinta county, in the summer of 1907, however, caused considerable excitement, numerous false claims were soon staked out over the country between the ridge and Green River, and plans were outlined to prospect the region by

churn and diamond drill borings during the season of 1908. In September, 1907, A. R. Schultz, one of the geologists of the survey, visited the locality, made a rather hurried examination of the field, and collected a sample of the oil from one of the shallow prospect pits.

Mr. Schultz's report, which includes the results of observations made by him during the field seasons of 1906 and 1907 while examining the coal fields of central and southern Uinta county, has just been published by the survey in an advance chapter from bulletin No. 34, which forms part I of "Contributions to Economic Geology, 1907." The report, which may be obtained by applying to the director of the survey at Washington, D. C., discusses briefly the topography and geology of the region and the occurrence, origin and quality of the oil, and includes the results of tests of the oil from the well one mile east of Spring valley and from the shallow pit east of Labarge ridge.

### ANOTHER CAMP OF GOLD.

Boyd Basin Region, Nevada, in the Public Eye.

Gold Circle is certainly having a boom. But there is another one scheduled which will soon be on the map, the section referred to being Boyd basin, about ninety-five miles north of Winnemucca, says the Humboldt Star. This district is indeed a very promising one, and work has demonstrated beyond the shadow of a doubt that there are gold values in the veins of that section. As a matter of fact a great deal of this ore shows an enormous amount of gold sticking out of the rock, and in some instances there was fully as much gold as there was rock.

A very careful and conservative examination of this new gold field discloses the fact that only a very limited amount of development work is necessary to disclose close ore shoots and a general average of the area along the gold zone is full warrant for believing that vast bodies carry commercial values and that the ore has been opened up and the greater depth attained the stronger and richer are the ore shoots.

The mineralized area is quite extensive and while only a limited amount of development has so far been prosecuted, enough has been done conclusively to prove that these shoots carry exceedingly good milling values. Strange as it may seem, this district has attracted comparatively little attention, although it is positively one of exceptional merit and the advent of the progressive mining operator will soon draw public attention to this field, where every favorable condition prevails for legitimate and aggressive operation.

So far the work done has been confined to very limited operations on two or three shoots; yet the showing on these estates is entirely sufficient to warrant a reasonable expenditure. The Rainstorm group, composed of twenty-seven claims, was located by George Lane and Hank Lane. This was a blind vein, but was finally located by tracing the surface float, and this valuable property is now partially developed by two vertical shafts, one of which has attained the depth of fifty feet and the other forty-four feet. These shafts are about 100 feet apart and are both sunk on the great ore zone. This trend through that region. In the bottom of the forty-four-foot shaft there is a ten-foot vein which shows general average values of \$14.40, and sixteen inches of a streak in this vein carries gold values from \$15.00 to \$30.00 per ton. In the fifty-foot shaft about the same values are maintained.

On the Spencer group there is a shaft twenty-two feet deep and a vein disclosed six and one-half feet wide and four samples taken from which the enormous value of \$31.28, \$62.56, \$71.50, \$46.80 and a high-grade streak showing the phenomenal values of \$2,131.80 in gold.

Quite a number of tests have been made of the ore on these claims and these tests show values as follows: \$1.40, \$1.96, \$35.14, \$89, \$7.31, \$2, \$3.27, \$51.28, \$82.95, \$71.20, \$46.80, \$60, \$3.69, \$39.76 and \$2,131.80. This property is now under bond to W. P. Murphy and M. H. Gilliam, both formerly of Spokane, Wash. For several years past Mr. Murphy has been operating in various parts of Nevada, and Mr. Gilliam was for six or seven years in the Alaska field, where he operated quite successfully. The latter is recognized as a very careful and conservative mining man, and quite a number of friends will follow his lead in any new field.

### Review of War Fleet, San Francisco.

For the above occasion the Oregon Short Line will make very low rates. Dates, rates, limits, etc., will be announced later.

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## FEATURES OF UTAH CON. REPORT

Comparison of Production, Earnings and Dividends—Review of Mine Work.

Following is a synopsis of the recent annual report of the Utah Consolidated company, together with comparative tables, record of earnings, etc., that give a good idea of what the company accomplished and what it is still doing. Production and costs compare as follows:

	1907.	1908.
Ore treated, tons	273,642	296,889
Copper, pounds	13,987,551	18,333,974
Silver, ounces	39,296	457,812
Gold, ounces	2,554	42,901
Net profits for a series of years were:		
1907	\$1,179,412	
1908	2,835,068	
1909	1,837,385	
1910	1,134,345	
1911	1,028,637	
1912	1,028,637	
Cost of property	\$1,641,115	\$1,515,213
Copper bullion and supplies	1,965,151	1,553,210
Cash on hand	26,132	43,987
Debtors	722,172	1,122,779
Miscellaneous	3,310	62,474
Total	\$3,597,881	\$4,587,963
Liabilities	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000
Sundry creditors	114,806	126,291
Receipts for contingent	43,435	510,114
Liabilities	1,539,649	2,451,225
Profit and loss surplus	\$3,597,881	\$4,587,963

Sulphide ore in sight is 1,202,509 tons, against 1,100,000 tons last year.

Profits per share in 1907 were \$3.35, against \$3.45 in 1906.

President Broughton, in his report to the stockholders, says: "Developments at the mine continue to be satisfactory. The sulphide ore in sight is 1,202,509 tons, being 102,509 tons more than in sight in March, 1907. There were mined 273,642 tons of sulphide ore, and 1,724 tons of lead ore, a total of 275,366 tons.

"The smelter treated 272,899 tons of sulphide ore, and 6,633 tons of custom ore, an average of 147.9 tons per day of sulphide ore. The product of the smelter was 13,987,551 pounds of bullion, and the bullion, when refined, yielded 13,987,551 pounds of fine silver, 34,248 ounces of fine copper, 1,419.29 ounces of fine silver and 44 ounces of fine gold. "The year 1907 was an eventful one for the company. During the months of June, July and August, by reason of coal and car shortages, the operations at the company's smelter were seriously interfered with, and, at the same time, the grade of ore received from the mine was below the average, which resulted in a much reduced production at a very high cost. Later, both the grade of the ore and the cost of production became normal.

"In December a decision of the circuit court of appeals was rendered, which had the effect of closing down the company's smelter, which went out of commission on January 1, 1908.

"In January the company made a contract with the Garfield Smelting company for the treatment of 800 tons of ore per day, which is about 7 per cent per year more than the amount the company treated at its own smelter during 1906 and 1907. The contract is for a period of one year, and can, at the option of the company, be extended for a second year. It is advantageous to the company.

"The treasurer's summary of the audited statement of accounts made up to December 31, 1907, which show a net profit for the year of \$1,179,412, or \$3.35 per share, out of which, and the accumulated surplus of \$1,250,000 (\$4.50 per share) was declared in dividends.

"During the year 1907 feet of exploring and development was done. A large deposit of copper sulphide ore was encountered on the No. 6½ level from which 30,000 tons have been produced and shipped, leaving quite a tonnage to be extracted. Another ore body was discovered above No. 6 level and is now being developed. This promises a good tonnage and has the appearance of making into a flat deposit, which is characteristic of this section of the mine. In addition to the above, a deposit of lead ore was found and developed on No. 5 level near its present heading, from which 1,724 tons were produced and sold during the year. There still remains at this point many tons available for shipment. A strong and well-filled vein of copper-sulphide ore was

## SEVEN TROUGHS IN THE SWIM

Leasers Beginning to Make the Fur Fly in Various Parts of Camp.

(Special to The Herald.)

Seven Troughs District, Nev., April 11.—There is evidence on every hand that a leasing boom is in full swing in the Seven Troughs district, following the work of demonstration on such leases as the Reagan & Hayes lease, the Wilbur lease, the George & English lease and the Frye and Michigan leases. The new army of lessees pouring into the camp are not of the old pioneer class of prospectors, without capital, who commenced leasing here a year ago, but they are representatives of potential capital seeking for deep mining projects.

In the new leasing program of the Mazuma Hills mining company, G. H. Hayes and associates have secured a block of ground on the Mazuma Hills estate that covers an outcrop from which extremely rich ore has been taken. The block lies north and west of the famous Reagan & Hayes lease, which is partially owned by Mr. Hayes' brother, known as the Hayes & Reagan lease. It is only a few hundred feet from the great Mazuma Hills mine workings and covers the apex of the hill. The scheme is heavily financed and soon the best kind of machinery will be in operation in this territory. The lease is for two years.

In addition to this and the Potter & Arnett lease, two other powerful leasing companies are preparing to operate on the Mazuma Hills Extension joint lease, backed by New York capital. The complete fruition of the program will make this hill noisy with the din of machinery.

At the point where the Mazuma Hills and the Mazuma Hills Extension joint lease along the course of the Mazuma Hills local mining men who do not care to be mentioned now are interesting spectators in a mammoth leasing project.

The Seven Troughs Merger company, including mining men in San Francisco, Reno, Salt Lake and Pocatello, are preparing to begin extensive leasing operations on the block of ground on the Reagan & Hayes lease, which is partially owned by Mr. Hayes' brother, known as the Hayes & Reagan lease. It is only a few hundred feet from the great Mazuma Hills mine workings and covers the apex of the hill. The scheme is heavily financed and soon the best kind of machinery will be in operation in this territory. The lease is for two years.

On the Badger Hill of the Pine Gold company many of the late lessees are now active. A coalition of three leasing companies are operating on this hill, and the Mazuma Hills Extension joint lease is being developed. It is only a few hundred feet from the great Mazuma Hills mine workings and covers the apex of the hill. The scheme is heavily financed and soon the best kind of machinery will be in operation in this territory. The lease is for two years.

encountered by a crosscut north from the twenty-first floor of No. 5 slope into our mine. This vein is now being opened up by drifts and raises. We hope to record a good production from this vein during the early part of the year. The vein was made in another stratum of limestone and is in no way connected with our main body of ore. The vein is about 100 feet long and is being developed. It is only a few hundred feet from the great Mazuma Hills mine workings and covers the apex of the hill. The scheme is heavily financed and soon the best kind of machinery will be in operation in this territory. The lease is for two years.

"A diamond drill was added to our equipment during the year, and has proved valuable for the time operation. Provision has been made for electrical locomotives and we hope to have them in operation during the early part of the year. Electric power will be purchased from an independent power company at a cost comparable with the cost of the coal. This equipment became necessary, as the horses employed for tramming are no longer able to economically handle the output of the mines, owing to increased distance and larger production.

In 1907 we purchased 1,000 acres for a new smelter site, situated in and below Pine county, Tooele county, a distance of 3.7 miles northward from our mines at Bingham. This covers all rights to all water rising in and flowing from Pine canyon, and amounting to 750 gallons per minute. The mine is at an elevation of 12,500 feet higher than the new smelter site.

"The new site calls for seven miles of spur track railroad to connect with the main line, a distance of 3.7 miles northward from our mines at Bingham. This covers all rights to all water rising in and flowing from Pine canyon, and amounting to 750 gallons per minute. The mine is at an elevation of 12,500 feet higher than the new smelter site.

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## TUSCARORA'S SURE REVIVAL

Camp With Record Output of \$60,000,000 Is Again Attracting Attention.

Tuscarora, the old camp which started the world with its tale of riches thirty years ago, is sharing in the general revival which is now transforming northern Nevada and bids fair to rival Gold Circle in the interest which has been aroused in its possibilities. For many years it has remained as deserted as the grave, but within the last few months Reno mining men have secured control of some of the principal properties in the camp and they will be opened up at once.

Practically the entire property to be secured after this long lapse of time is the Paymaster group, recently taken over by a Nevada company formed to exploit it. The property is the southwest extension of the famous old Navajo, which produced \$60,000,000 in the early days, and consists of eight claims. It is developed by a series of shafts of from 50 to 200 feet in depth and is said to show large bodies of ore which will average in the neighborhood of \$20.

The revival brings back to the memory of the camp the interesting story of the camp's phenomenal production. It was discovered and worked in the early seventies, the first work being done upon a great vein carrying high silver values, associated with an appreciable value in gold, a product which closely resembles that of the Comstock.

At that time the mines could only be worked for the very high-grade ores, and it is a well-known fact that nothing showing values under \$25 could be profitably extracted and that, owing to the isolated position of the camp, it was impossible to transport heavy machinery, with the result that no work was attempted below the 200-foot level.

In spite of this handicap the nine big mines of the district produced approximately \$60,000,000 in a comparatively few years, and it is said that this amount nearly \$20,000,000 was distributed in dividends. The most famous of these producers were the Navajo, which produced about \$20,000,000; the Grand Prize, with a record of \$4,800,000; the Dexter, which produced \$3,000,000; the Commonwealth, and with \$1,000,000 to its credit; the Independence, with \$3,750,000, and at least five others with records exceeding the million mark.

The main features of the formation of the Tuscarora district are two great dikes, one carrying gold-silver and the other silver-gold. The two dikes are about 300 feet apart and connected by eighteen distinct cross veins, upon each of which in early days was a paying mine. There is an abundance of wood and water in the district and it has a climate somewhat similar to that of Salt Lake. It lies about eighty miles from Golconda and about half that distance from the new excitement at Gold Circle.

## ELY CAMP GOSSIP ON THE BIG MERGER

Following the organization of the big \$200,000 investment in Maine by the Copper Mines company, organized for the purpose of controlling the stock of the Ely Copper company, Nevada Consolidated, Cumberland-Ely, Chairman Consolidated, Steptoe Smelting, Boston Consolidated and Mason Valley Copper companies, it is reported in Ely that the latest move on the part of the new combination is to acquire control of the property of the Ely Central Copper company, which is the Ely Mining Exposition.

A great deal of interest is being taken locally on account of the location of the mines of the Ely Central Copper company, in which a number of Ely people are stockholders. The greater amount of the mines and the most valuable ones of the company's holdings are located between the Copper Flat group of the Nevada Consolidated and the Ruth group, and the Star Point shaft, the main working shaft of the Consolidated company. It has been known for some time past

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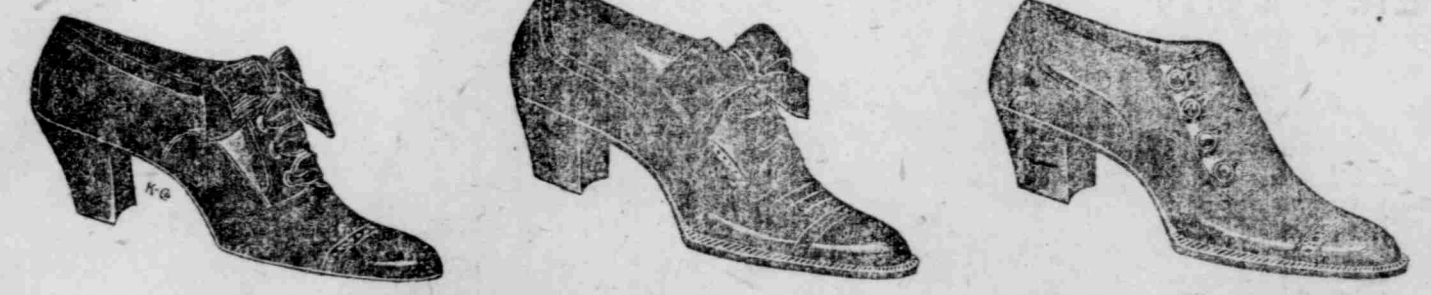
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